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THE YELLOW SHEETS

Vol. 1, No. 12—SEPT.-OCT., 1945—Laura D. Cole, Grannis, Ark., Editor.

Being on the borderline between the cyclonic climate to the north and the monsoonic to the south, this region, is normally subject to a summer drought, frequently extending from late June to late July, sometimes mid-August. This year we had only a mild taste of dry weather in that period, just enough to make us hope for rain.

Now is time to plant a fall garden, and most of the spring vegetables can safely be planted now, since we do not expect light frost before late October or early November; nor killing frost for some time later. Tomatoes, pole limas, melons and similar full season crops in the north need to be supplemented by June seed plantings, as early plantings will be through bearing long before frost.

As an example of the practical possibilities of such a season, Mrs. Hamby, one of my neighbors, regularly planted Irish potatoes in mid-February. When these were ripe and dug, ground was promptly replanted to Mexican June corn, interplanted with cowpeas and pole beans. In September, when a rain was just beginning, she broadcast Big Boston lettuce seed and a nice variety of mustard seed, among the tangle of vines, letting the rain do the covering of the seed. The stalks and vines were left to stand or fall at will and furnished a valuable mulch. She had lettuce and mustard for salads all winter.

She planted onion sets in a long, wide bed. As spaces became avail-

able, where green onions were pulled, she set fall cabbage plants in two rows, lengthwise of the bed. In August winter Irish potatoes were planted in three rows, lengthwise the bed.

Winter potatoes should be planted much deeper than the early spring crop. They make less tops and are usually left in the ground. Some gardeners, in early December, run a big turning plow along each side of the bed, throwing the dirt over the plants.

We think a row neglected which does not bear three crops in a season. But my summer garden is a wreck—a neighbor's cow smashed through the fence three nights and ate it. I notified the cow's owner but he took no notice. You see, Arkansas laws are framed to favor the stock owner. If you ever figure on buying farm land in Arkansas, beware the siren song of "free range." That is, unless you figure on sponging for stock feed.

PARTRIDGE BERRY (Michella repens). Hardy evergreen, ground cover. Needs acid soil, deep shade in the south, berries edible, ideal for terrariums.

RED TRADESCANTIA, so-called from cold weather coloring of the leaves. Color of blossoms seems to depend upon the nature of the soil and amount of the sun. One of the spider worts. Hardy perennial.

GREEN BRIAR, vine stickery; medicinal vine, with rather attractive foliage and yellow flowers in early summer.

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VIRGINIA CREEPER, native vine; good cover for buildings, takes brilliant autumn coloring.

CONFEDERATE VIOLETS, grey effect, thrive in poor soil and can stand more sun than others.

HARDY ROCK GARDEN PLANTS

HARDY SEDUMS. All Sedums I call hardy can survive 15 below zero without protection. Some of them are hardy in the sub-Arctic. Most are fine for rock garden plants. Last year my *Sempervivums* made almost no increase. This year most are "hatching" chicks, and when my backlog of orders left from last year are filled, I hope to have a number of varieties of hardy Semps to offer. There is a rock garden plant par excellence. Most of the dwarf plants listed under other heads, and many of the wildlings, are also good for rock gardens.

I have a few plants of alum root to spare. This is a fine rock garden plant and also good as a pot plant. 10c each.

Any of the above plants 5c each, unless otherwise noted.

HARDY CACTI—10c EACH

OPUNTIA VULGARE (Common Prickly Pear) hardy, flower creamy yellow, fruit edible. Can be used as pot plant. Thrives well in poor soil.

OPUNTIA VASEYII, hardy on the Colorado desert.

OPUNTIA ROBUSTA, stately lawn plant, hardy here to 15 below.

OPUNTA RAMOSSISSIMA, hardy and dwarf, good in full sun in rock gardens, also good as pot plant.

An almost spineless *Opuntia* found here in only one spot that I know of.

I have wholesale quantities of the following Sedums: *Sarmentosum*, hardy to subarctic, pendant effect. One sent me *Glaucum*, much like album, but different flowers and winter coloring; *Album* white flowers; evergreen with us, an album hybrid has never bloomed for me, color of foliage slightly different, a grey green one which I think is *altissum*, good in rock garden, dish garden or as a pot plant; *Acre* and *Sexanfulare* much alike but different, both dwarf and good ground cover for clayey spots; *Maximowiczii*, little known in U.S.A.—two varieties which are in dispute among the botanists who have seen them. The dealer from whom I bought them identified them as the rare pink-flowered *Stoloneferum*, and No. 28 as *Stoloneferum coccinea*; and the faculty of our State Experiment Station at Hope, Ark., agrees with him. Other botanists just as well posted say that both are unusual *Spurium* hybrids.

Have from one to a dozen plants of other varieties. I have only one plant of the *Sedum Spectabile Alba*, the tall White Houseleek. Will trade other Sedums for small rooted plants of pink, red and purple *Spectabiles*. Have had all three and put them out in the yard where Bermuda grass killed them.

Any Sedum listed, labeled to the best of my knowledge, 5c.

Seven well rooted, small clumps, all different, labeled to the best of my knowledge, 25c, postpaid.

If selection is left to me, 50 well-rooted Sedums, 10 varieties labeled, \$1.00.

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If unlabeled, 1c each in lot of 25.

Hemerocalis Kwanso, 5c.

Hemerocalis Fulva, 5c.

HOUSE PLANTS

Common Green Leaf Wandering Jew, 5c.

Large Green Leaf Wandering Jew,
Purple and grey-striped Wandering Jew, 5c.

Frog Leg Cactus (Kalanchoe Tubiflora), 10c.

Red Bird Cactus (Green Pedilanthus), 10c.

Variegated Pedilanthus, 10c.

Peanut Cactus (Chamecerous Sylvestris), 10c.

Optunia Vilyi (dwarf tender), 10c.

Optunia, either elata or subelata, not sure which, 10c.

Cactus Echinopsis, 10c.

Ornamental Pepper Plants, edible and plenty hot, 5c each.

Talinums 5c each.

Chinese Temple (Kalanchoe Daigremontiana), 10c.

Kalanchoe Fedschenkoi, 10c.

Billbergia Nutans, 10c.

Unless otherwise stated, all plants whose prices are not given, are 5c each. Postage paid on orders of 50c or more. For less than that amount, please add 5c.

Until income is bigger, the Yellow Sheets will be published bi-monthly; and until my cubs are home from the war, more attention will be paid to unusual plants, many from other lands, than to our wildings.

Subscription 25c for 12 issues. Nice present for your garden-loving friends.

Mrs. Laura D. Cole
Grannis, Arkansas

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IRIS—San Gabriel, Shining Waters, Lady Paramount, California Blue,

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Mauna Loa, Alta California, Dymia, Indian Chief, Carnation, 25c each, or \$2.50 per doz. **Daylilies:** Ophir, W. H. Whyman, Gem, J. A. Crawford, Mikado, Dawn, Sir Michael Foster, 25c each. Dauntless, Hyperion, Rajah, Serenade, Mary Stoker, 35c each. **Rose:** Wine and Red Shades from 50c to \$1.00 each. **Lycoris Bulbs,** 50c per doz., or \$5.00 per hundred. **Giant Hybrid Amaryllis Bulbs,** 50c each. Memory Lane Iris Garden, 3139 Holly Street, Shreveport, Louisiana.

WILL TRADE feed sacks for old-fashioned doll. Mrs. A. A. Hedges, 1618 Fairmount, Wichita, Kan.

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"COLDPROOF" or New Delta Fig, bears first year planted, large figs, finest quality. Other fruit and nut trees. Also Mexico-Texas gifts, curios, children's toys. New Delta Nursery, R. 4, Jackson, Mississippi.

PENPAL SHEETS—Space for name, hobbies, etc., to send for your pals to fill out. A superb way to know the likes and dislikes of your friends. 25 for 25c; 75 for 70c; 125 for one dollar. Noma Everitt, 370 Whittemore St., Pontiac 20, Mich.

CHICAGO ACTOR, philosopher seeks pen pals. Peterson, 3542 Carroll, Chicago.

"For this people's heart is waxed gross, and their ears are dull of hearing, and their eyes have closed; lest at any time they should see with their eyes, and hear with their ears, and understand with their hearts, and should be converted, and I should heal them." Matt. 13; 15.

Human nature is much the same in all ages. The Divine Plan for organic life is a gradual evolution upward. The climax of physical development had already been reached. Jesus came to give the needed boost for higher mental and spiritual growth, but his work was hampered at every turn by the unwillingness of his hearers, to lay aside emotion and carefully study the facts he laid before them.

And today Satan is employing the same tactics to hinder the working out of the Individualism inaugurated by Jesus. Satan is using the thoughtless emotionalism and unwillingness to think through to facts, to turn our lives away from the individual liberty which has carried our country to its present height, and turn us back to a collective life governed by central planning. A form of life possibly good for a primitive people, but long ago outgrown by our ancestors.

—o—

Following our wet spring, we have had some very dry spells this mid-summer, accompanied by severe heat. I see again that Sedums can survive severe drought, but suffer from our full sun.

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Have lost several young plants of *Billbergia nutans* from the combination of scant water and full sun. The shoddy work of a local man caused the supports of several stands to collapse under heavy rain. I was compelled to move the plants into full sun. Then came a dry spell. We have plenty of water in our well, but it is some distance from the plant stands and I am not strong enough to carry enough that distance. I think that in our climate most Succulents, including Cacti, do much better with mid-day shade. When set in the open ground where their roots can range far, Cacti can stand more sun than when confined to pots.

Day Lilies (*Hemerocalis*) are not usually regarded as suitable for pot culture, but I am compelled to keep my finest in big cans and buckets, because my yard is infested with Bermuda, Dallis, Nut and Johnson grasses. Most of my Kwansos and a few of the others are in the open. Those on the stands bloomed much better than their sisters, fighting for life against the grass.

Pokeberries beginning to ripen and some of the leaves turn red. Chickens like to eat the berries and the pioneers made use of them for dye stuff and ink. A valuable native plant.

—o—

Much poultry is moulting and egg yield cut. I find it a mistake to reduce grain feed at this time. Hens will lay better later on if full fed through the moult.

The back lotter has an advantage over the big-scale operator in culling

moulters. Most hens which begin to shed their feathers early will take a long time about it, and be out of production for an unprofitably long time; therefore the rule of commercial poultry raisers is to cull out the early moulters. But occasionally we find a hen which sheds early, hustles through the job and is back in production when her sisters are quitting. And this quality is handed down to some of her daughters, but the owner must have a small flock to know each hen personally. Mr. Philo Brown, N. Y., proved that it is possible in a few years to build up a flock of heavy layers which will do their shedding when eggs are plentiful and cheap and be back on the job when egg prices climb.

A farm woman near Grannis was taken sick some bit ago with severe stomach trouble, unable to retain food. The doctor prescribed goat's milk. One of her sons comes here after the morning milking and buys a quart of fresh milk for 10 cents. This is the backbone of his mother's diet and I am told that she is steadily improving. I expect Ruth to go entirely dry in November, preparatory to freshening in late winter, but she is still giving five pints a day. I sell two pints and have enough left for me and the cats.

Providence intervened in my behalf, to some extent, in the cat trouble. Something, most likely a dog, killed the long-haired mother. Mildred promptly adopted the four orphan kittens. Did not have enough for her

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own and the four orphans. I kept goat's milk before them all the time, but three of the younger brood died. That leaves me beset with five kittens besides our two cats. Well, seven is not as bad as eleven.

Blackberries are an important cash crop in this part of the state, and this year are proving a gold mine to the pickers; and the farmers are not losing money on them. The cannery at Grannis is packing for quick freeze and the armed forces are taking the bulk of the pack. The fantastic price of 13 cents a pound is being paid for the berries delivered at the packing shed. Unless stopped by act of God, this one shed will pack over 900,000 pounds this season.

The bushes do not bear until the second year. After that the crop requires about 20 man days labor per acre per year, aside from picking. Sixty crates to the acre is an average yield—over a thousand pounds. And if an investor will come in wearing duckings and looking for odd jobs to meet expenses, while keeping his eyes open, it is easily possible to buy good berry land, clear title and usable improvements, for \$25 an acre.

Mr. Cole sold a drifter 160 acres on credit. The man built a new barn, considerable new fencing and improved the dwelling and paid out in full with the proceeds from the second crop. Then abandoned the farm and drifted further west where he hoped "to do better."

How do you like doing without meat and soap? Well, just resign yourself. We are simply being conditioned for central planning, whereby the politicians at Washington will plan our lives and everything will be just lovely, even though we go hungry and dirty. We all know that if the small slaughter and packing houses were permitted to operate to capacity, and if farmers were permitted to slaughter all their surplus animals and sell the meat without red tape, there would be more meat for the table and much more fat for soap. But that would be individual initiative instead of State Socialism, which just won't do at all. What would a lot of the political appointees do for a job if we were left free to manage our own affairs? I see by the papers that snoopers will be turned loose to keep an eye on the food lockers. Fine Gestapo training for the snoopers. Next thing it will be our preserve closets.

Of course all this flapdoodle is under the excuse of protecting us from the boogher of the Black Market. Personally I prefer to be free to protect myself. I can refuse to buy if the price is too high. I consider the Black Market much the lesser evil, and if they keep on they'll make the Black Market as fashionable as bath tub gin used to be in the Prohibition era.

But the real purpose is obviously to eliminate small business. Restrict until the owner must quit or deal with the Black Market, and then crack down and eliminate him. All as correct and legal as the Nazi business deals.

